

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

1
2
3
4
5 An automobile interior trim component includes a molded substrate
laminated onto a cover sheet including a foam backing and a skin
film having a surface texture. The cover sheet is preheated so
the skin film is in a melted viscous liquid state above its
melting temperature, and the foam backing remains in a solid
elastic foam state below its melting temperature. The preheated
cover sheet is mechanically pre-molded by a back mold into a
front mold. Pressurized air is applied through the back mold,
to blow-mold the cover sheet against the front mold, so the
melted skin film reproduces a surface texture of the front mold
surface while the solid foam backing acts as a buffer and air
barrier layer. Vacuum is applied through the front mold surface.
The mold is opened, a substrate is introduced, and the back mold
then molds and thermally laminates the substrate against the foam
backing of the cover sheet.